



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 66.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, June 06, 2019 at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies, Economic Affairs, Resettlement & Rehabilitation, Northern Province Development and Youth Affairs

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Internal & Home Affairs and Provincial Councils & Local Government

Hon. John Amaratunga, Minister of Tourism Development, Wildlife and Christian Religious Affairs

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka, Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms and Chief Government Whip

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries and Social Empowerment

Hon. Palany Thigambaram, Minister of Hill Country New Villages, Infrastructure & Community Development

Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Buddhasasana & Wayamba Development

Hon. Tilak Marapana, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Malik Samarawickrama, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade

Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne, Minister of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva, Non Cabinet Minister of Economic Reforms and Public Distribution

Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan, Non Cabinet Minister of Special Areas Development

Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera, Non Cabinet Minister of Labour & Trade Union Relations

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, Non Cabinet Minister of Science, Technology & Research

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe, State Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala, State Minister of Internal & Home Affairs and Provincial Councils and Local Government
Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare, State Minister of Tourism Development, Wildlife & Christian Religious Affairs
Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare, State Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Economic Affairs
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana, State Minister of City Planning & Water Supply
Hon. A. D. Premadasa, State Minister of Power & Renewable Energy
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma, State Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake, State Minister of Highways & Road Development
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, State Minister of Finance
Hon. Vadivel Suresh, State Minister of Plantation Industries
Hon. Vasantha Senanayake, State Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage, Deputy Minister of Petroleum Resources Development
Hon. Edward Gunasekara, Deputy Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha, Deputy Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana, Deputy Minister of Industry & Commerce

Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena
Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara
Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail
Hon. T. B. Ekanayake
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Piyasena Gamage

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. S. B. Nawinne
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Arundika Fernando
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Palitha Range Bandara

Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe

Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Kanaka Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie
Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary-General of Parliament

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Assistant Secretary-General

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

Parliament met pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker took the Chair.

1. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena and the Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, Members of Parliament, have been discharged from the membership of the Committee on Public Petitions and the Hon. T. B. Ekanayake and the Hon. Susantha Punchinilame, Members of Parliament have been nominated to serve in that Committee, by the Committee of Selection on 04th June 2019, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 127 (3) of the Parliament.”

II

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera, Member of Parliament, has been discharged from the membership of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security and nominated the Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake, Member of Parliament, to serve in that Committee, by the Committee of Selection on 04th June 2019, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 111(22) (a) of the Parliament.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the —

- (i) Third Instalment – Part X of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2015;
- (ii) Fourth Instalment – Part X and Fifth Instalment – Part IX and of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2016;
- (iii) First Instalment – Parts VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, XIII and XIV, Third Instalment – Part V, Fifth Instalment – Parts V, VI, VII and VIII and Eighth Instalment – Part III of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2017; and
- (iv) Tenth Instalment – Parts I, II, III, IV, V and VI of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2018

in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Ordered that the said Reports do lie upon the **Table** and to be printed.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Central Environmental Authority for the year 2015 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of National Policies, Economic Affairs, Resettlement & Rehabilitation, Northern Province Development and Youth Affairs for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Report on the Submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Office for Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Northern Province Development in the Second Report for the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament of the Committee on Public Accounts for the period from 23.02.2018 to 12.10.2018 which was presented to Parliament on 04.04.2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Information Technology Management for the year 2018;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Department of State Accounts for the year 2018; and
- (iii) Performance Report of the Department of Public Finance for the year 2018

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Report on the Submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Ministry of Finance, Department of Public Finance, Department of State Accounts, Department of Management Audit and Department of Management Services in the First Report for the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament of the Committee on Public Accounts for the period from 06.06.2017 to 08.12.2017 which was presented to Parliament on 21.02.2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

- (i) Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat - Mannar for the year 2018;
- (ii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Kalutara for the year 2018;
- (iii) Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat - Jaffna for the year 2018;
- (iv) Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Matara for the year 2018; and
- (v) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Vavuniya for the year 2018

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Megapolis & Western Development for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

- (i) Performance Report of the Department of Prisons for the year 2018; and
- (ii) Performance Report of the Ministry of Justice and Prison Reforms for the year 2018

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti-corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Sports Development for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Youth, Sports, Arts and Heritage.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Department of Import and Export Control for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd. for the year 2016 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti-corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on, “Institute of Valuers of Sri Lanka (Amendment) Bill” which was referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table**.

(2) Hon. K. K. Piyadasa, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development presented the Report of the said Committee on —

(i) Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill;
and

(ii) Revival of Underperforming Enterprises or Underutilized Assets (Repeal) Bill

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table**.

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

(1) Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera presented a petition dated 08.09.2017 from Mr. W.M.L.S.K. Gunasekara of Ulpatha Arawa, Madowita, Kalabululanda.

(2) Hon. S. B. Dissanayake presented a petition dated 06.03.2019 from Mr. H.M. Dharmarathna of No. 132/D, Kotakedeniya, Weligalla.

The Petitions stood referred under Standing Order 30(10) of the Parliament, to the Committee on Public Petitions.

(At 11.46 a.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

5. Institute of Valuers of Sri Lanka (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The State Minister of Finance on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. D. M. Swaminathan seconded by Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara moved,—That Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.23 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,—That Hon. Bimal Rathnayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.46 p.m. Hon. Bimal Rathnayake took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,—That Hon. Hesha Withanage do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.22 p.m. Hon. Hesha Withanage took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,—That Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.48 p.m. Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Presiding Member took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 26 were agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported without Amendments.

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Bill be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

6. Adjournment (Preventing Large Scale Forest Destruction in Godakawela Area) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 6.48 p.m. adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Friday, June 07, 2019.